as president of the society, occupied the chair, and the public operation of the society was inaugurated with a lecture by Mr. William Felkin, mayor of Nottingham. The towns of Nottingham and Leeds have enough in common with each other to render the remedial measures which have been useful in the one applicable to the other; and Mr. Felkin was able, from his own experience and labours, to cite improvements actually effected in Nottingham, which would meet nearly all the cases which most need amelioration in Leeds. His hints for improving the dwellings of the working classes showed how much might be done in this way, at the most trifling cost, and without legal compulsion. We hope that other towns will adopt the excellent example set by Leeds.

*South Ossett.*—A new church here was consecrated on 16th ult. by the Bishop of Ripon. The church, which is named Christ Church, is a plain building, capable of accommodating 608 persons, more than 400 of the sittings being free. Its design is cruciform, and its style Gothic, of thirteenth century. The architects were Messrs. Mallinson and Healey, of Bradford. The church is built on a site given by Mr. Joseph Thornes, of Ossett-green, and, by the provisions of Sir Robert Peel's Act, henceforth becomes a parish church.

*Dumfries.*—The first pipe of the water works, opened on 21st ult., was laid on 16th January last. The design for them was supplied by Mr. Gale, C.E., and the pipes have been laid by Mr. Travis, under the direction of Mr. Inglis, the local engineer. The works, besides pipes, sieves, scouring sluices, and fire-plugs, include two pairs of filters, about 560 yards distant from Lochrutton loch, or lake, whence the water is taken, and possessing a surface of 4,640 square feet; and a stone tank, into which the filtered water falls, and which is capable of containing 233,000 gallons. The pipe for the first mile from the tank is 9 inches in diameter, and for the rest of the distance of 4 miles, to Dumfries, 8 inches.

## THE BUILDERS' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION DINNER.

THE annual dinner of this excellent and thriving Institution took place at the London Tavern, on Wednesday, when the chair was occupied by Mr. Thos. Grissell, F.S.A., the President. The company numbered about 200, including many eminent builders, architects, and others, amongst whom were Mr. Alderman Cubitt, M.P., Mr. J. B. Graham, Mr. W. Herbert, Mr. Lee, Messrs. George, Joseph, and Stephen Bird, Mr. Nesham, Mr. G. Spencer Smith, Mr. H. Kendall, Mr. Tyerman, Mr. Dunnage, Mr. H. Hunt, Mr. Ifold, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Soward, Mr. J. B. White, Mr. G. White, Mr. Myers, Mr. Dennis, Mr. Wagstaff, Mr. Langton, Mr. John Barnett, Mr. Watts, &c.

The customary honours having been warmly rendered to the Queen and the Royal Family, the Chairman proposed "Increased Prosperity to the Builders' Benevolent Institution." He knew that the toast required neither eloquence nor ability on his part to recommend it; and that the company around him were determined to carry out the objects of the society to a successful issue. The institution had been founded only a few years, and had commenced in a very humble manner: it had, however, thus far proceeded satisfactorily, and there was every prospect of its continuing to do so. It was a matter of surprise that the builders of the metropolis had not taken up a subject of so much importance earlier, but now that they had done so in a spirited manner, he had no doubt they would carry it out effectually. Although their profits, perhaps, were not so large as the public generally supposed, they had the means of rendering the Society as prosperous as any other of the kind. They had already twelve pensioners on the funds of the Institution, receiving altogether nearly 300*l.* a year; and they were not solely dependent on current subscriptions, for the directors had taken care to invest a portion of the funds as a provision against any emergency. Every builder in London ought to belong to it, and with a little exertion they might easily be enabled to double their numbers in the next three years. He hoped even at the next anniversary to find a considerable increase in consequence of the proceedings of that evening. Warmly then he would propose "Prosperity to the Institution."

The Chairman next gave "The Patrons of the Institution," in connection with Mr. Alderman Cubitt, who, as a former president, had done great benefit to the society.

Mr. Alderman Cubitt said he was hardly worthy of the honour conferred upon him by placing his name in association with the other patrons of the institution, distinguished as they were alike by rank and popular estimation. He adverted to the presidency of the Earl of Carlisle at a former anniversary, and ascribed much of their present success to the eloquence with which his lordship had then advocated their cause. For himself he felt as a builder that he should neglect his duty if he did not take every opportunity of aiding the society to the best of his ability. He had last year advised the appointment of a new president, and he congratulated the members on the election of his friend Mr. Grissell, who he hoped would have health, strength, and inclination still to promote their interests, and would not resign the position he so ably filled until he had secured for the society a worthier successor: this would keep him there some time. He feared they would never want objects on whom to bestow their relief, and he hoped that relief would always be afforded; for by doing good to others they would best consult their own happiness.

Mr. William Lee proposed briefly the health of the Chairman.

The health of Mr. George Bird, the Treasurer, was very warmly received. That gentleman responded to the compliment in an earnest appeal for increased support to the Institution. They were not able, he said, at the last election of pensioners to place all the candidates upon the list, but he hoped sufficient funds would be raised by the present meeting to enable them to have another election within a very few months; and thereby to relieve the disappointed applicants, who were probably almost at the doors of the workhouse. The Institution had already prospered far beyond his first anticipations: they had already a considerable fund, and he confidently hoped it would very soon be doubled.

Mr. H. Hunt acknowledged the toast of "The Architects and Surveyors," and expressed their satisfaction in being associated with the builders, on whom, indeed, much of their success depended.

The Chairman proposed "The Press," and the health of Mr. Godwin, referring in kindly terms to THE BUILDER and its editor.

Mr. Godwin said—The public press, which regulated the social and political condition of the world, was indeed a mighty and important engine, and wielded, as it was at that time, almost wholly for good, deserved their thanks. That portion of it which he represented was but a confined one, and did not entitle him to return thanks for the press in general. He had sought to aid the Institution from the time when Mr. Cozens, Mr. Biers (whose name ought not to be forgotten on such occasions as the present), with Mr. Bird, and other early labourers, could scarcely muster a dozen friends around them, to promote the cause in which they were engaged. It had always given him pleasure to do the little he could to aid it; and he rejoiced now to see the Grissells, the Cubitts, the Birds, the Curtis's, the Lees, the Neshams, and other eminent builders rallying around the society, with a company of two hundred friends, and a nest egg of some thousands of pounds in the Bank. The Institution was most important, not only on the ground of charity, but as affording opportunities for such assemblies as the present, bringing men together, and educing kindly feelings. He could not avoid hoping that he should one day see various existing institutions of a similar nature all amalgamated into one great Builders' Benevolent Institution, in which the masters, foremen, and workmen might be all united into a common guild, and see their mutual dependence on each other. At the present moment he might especially urge the importance of establishing that community of interest between masters and workmen. When this was the case, they would be able with truth to say with Thompson,—

> —"Ours are the plans of peace:
> To live like brothers, and, conjunctive all,
> Embellish life."

The health of "The Vice-Presidents and Trustees" was acknowledged by Mr. Herbert for the former, and Mr. Stephen Bird for the latter. The "Stewards" were represented by Mr. Thos. Cozens, who, as the founder of the Institution, adverted to his first attempts to direct public attention to the necessity for such a society, through the medium of the press. His communication to one newspaper being neglected, he wrote a letter to THE BUILDER, in the columns of which the subject was warmly advocated.

Mr. J. Soward, jun., replied to the last toast, —"The Directors of the Institution."

The proceedings of the evening were in every respect satisfactory, and the amount subscribed was upwards of 400*l.*, including the following donations:—Mr. Jay, 21*l.*; Mr. Grissell, 10*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. J. Bazley White, 10*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. Joseph Bird, 10*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. Stephen Bird, 10*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. James Wagstaff, 10*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. William Dennis, 10*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. G. Spencer Smith, 10*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. Alderman Cubitt, 5*l.* 5*s.*; Mr. J. B. Graham, 5*l.* 5*s.*; Mr. Peto, M.P., 5*l.* 5*s.*; Mr. Herbert, 5*l.* 5*s.*; Mr. W. Lee, 5*l.* 5*s.*; Mr. R. Watts, 4*l.* 4*s.*; &c., &c., &c.

## DOINGS IN EDINBURGH.

THE statue of her Majesty by Mr. Handyside Ritchie has been erected in front of Holyrood Palace: she is represented in the costume of the ancient Scottish queens, her robe being elaborately embroidered with the devise of the thistle: in her right hand she holds the palm branch of peace. The pedestal is of very ornate description, presenting on its four sides emblematical figures of the seasons in high relief, with clusters of flowers and fruit, executed with great freedom and taste. The material used is a block of free-stone from Redhall Quarry, which can be procured at one-tenth the cost of marble or bronze; and, considering its pleasing colour and known durability, it is matter of wonder that it is not more frequently used in the production of sculpture.

A new surgical hospital, in connection with the Infirmary, is being completed: its arrangements are good. It contains about twenty-four wards, each capable of accommodating eight or ten patients: the ceilings are twenty feet high, and fresh air is admitted by small upper windows, the foul air being carried up ventilating shafts to a central tower. The supply of water is copious, and baths and other conveniences are at every hand. Patients are conveyed to the upper flats by means of "lifts," and victuals, &c. are transmitted in the same manner. Externally it presents a plain but effective Italian front with a central tower.

It is interesting to observe that houses for the labouring classes are rising in many localities where they are much required, but a great deal must be done before anything approaching what is necessary is effected. Building in general is brisker than it has been for several years.

DUN EDIN.

THE ARCHITECT OF ST. PANCRAS NEW CHURCH.—May I beg of you to contradict an assertion quoted by you from Mayhew's *London Labour*, relating to the late architect of St. Pancras New Church, by stating that William Henry Inwood died in Upper Seymour-street, Euston-square, and was buried in his family vault beneath St. Pancras New Church, and that his son Henry, who was joint architect with him, died at sea about March, 1843. Your insertion of the above will oblige the surviving relatives of his family as well as his grandson.

OCTAVIUS INWOOD THISELTON.

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